Labiosa, Rochelle

From: Jason.Pappani@deq.idaho.gov
Sent: Tuesday, May 07, 2019 3:07 PM
To: Shaw, Hanh
Cc: Labiosa, Rochelle; Macchio, Lisa; Grafe, Cyndi
Subject: RE: Snake River Hells Canyon site specific temp criterion

Thanks!

From: Shaw, Hanh [mailto:Shaw.Hanh@epa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 07, 2019 2:08 PM
To: Jason Pappani
Cc: Labiosa, Rochelle; Macchio, Lisa; Grafe, Cyndi
Subject: FW: Snake River Hells Canyon site specific temp criterion

Jason, per your request, please see the email chain below between the EPA and NMFS on April 24 and 25 regarding the agency's determination of effects regarding critical habitat for the Southern Resident Killer Whales.

Hanh Shaw | Manager
Standards and Assessment Section
Water Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency | Region 10
P: 206-553-0171 | **E:** shaw.hanh@epa.gov

From: Labiosa, Rochelle
Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2019 4:05 PM
To: Johnna.Sandow@noaa.gov
Cc: Johnna.Sandow@noaa.gov; Josie Thompson <josie.thompson@noaa.gov>; Shaw, Hanh <Shaw.Hanh@epa.gov>; Palmer, John <Palmer.John@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Snake River Hells Canyon site specific temp criterion

Hi Johnna,

Thanks for apprising us of your review, the status of your response letter, and for sharing additional references with us. Regarding the SRKW critical habitat, you are correct that the NLAA determination was a typo. The effects determination for SRKW critical habitat should be consistent with the SRKW effects determination, which is likely to adversely affect (SRKW critical habitat should be LAA in Table 7.1). This determination is due to a PCE/PBF for prey in critical habitat for SRKW ("(2) Prey species of sufficient quantity, quality and availability to support individual growth, reproduction and development, as well as overall population growth"), and because the Agency concluded that the SRKW's fall Chinook prey are likely to be adversely affected by the Agency's proposed action. Thanks for sharing the salmon distribution references; since the papers/information including the below are not definitive in regards to Snake River species in SRKW critical habitat, we are interpreting as described above.

For "#4", references, below are links to these references. (Note that the Jensen et al. article should be 2006 and not 2005 - an erroneous citation was recorded).

Jensen et al 2006: http://publications.gc.ca/site/eng/422555/publication.html

Mann and Peery 2005 (available for download):
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/242273910_Effects_of_Water_Temperature_Exposure_on_Spawning_Success_and_Developing_Gametes_of_Migrating_Anadromous_Fish_-_2004

Or available from University of Idaho here:
https://www.webpages.uidaho.edu/uiferl/pdf%20reports/Temperature%20Progress%20Report%208_05.pdf

All the best,
Rochelle
Rochelle Labiosa, Ph.D.
Office of Water and Watersheds
US EPA, Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 155, MC: OWW-191
Seattle, WA 98101-3140
Ph: 206.553.1172

From: Johnna Sandow - NOAA Federal <johnna.sandow@noaa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2019 7:00 AM
To: Labiosa, Rochelle <labiosa.rochelle@epa.gov>
Cc: Johnna.Sandow@noaa.gov; Josie Thompson <josie.thompson@noaa.gov>
Subject: Re: Snake River Hells Canyon site specific temp criterion

Good morning Rochelle:

The papers listed below pertain to Chinook salmon stock distribution in marine environments. Unfortunately, neither paper addresses Snake River species specifically. The closest species studied include those from the Upper Columbia River. These papers, along with the designated critical habitat map for Southern Resident Killer Whale should be used to support EPA's assessment of the potential impacts of this action on SRKW designated critical habitat.

Shelton, A.O., W.H. Satterthwaite, E.J. Ward, B.E. Feist, and B. Burke. 2019. Using hierarchical models to estimate stock-specific and seasonal variation in ocean distribution, survivorship, and aggregate abundance of fall run Chinook salmon. Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences. 76:95-108.

Weitkamp, L.A. 2010. Marine distributions of Chinook salmon from the West Coast of North America determined by coded wire tag recoveries. Transactions of the American Fisheries Society, 139(1):147-170.

Also, in case you were curious, we have a few recent consultations that may be of interest. The US v OR consultation and the latest Federal Columbia River Power System consultation. Both are available on our website (I have hyperlinked them in this email).

Let me know if you have further questions.

Johnna Sandow
Fish Biologist
NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region
Phone: 208.378.5737
johnna.sandow@noaa.gov
www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov

On Wed, Apr 24, 2019 at 7:05 AM Johnna Sandow - NOAA Federal <johnna.sandow@noaa.gov> wrote:

Good morning Rochelle:

We have completed our review of the final BE and will be sending our 30-day letter within the next week. The purpose of this email to to inform EPA of a few areas where NMFS likely will have a different conclusion in the BiOp and to request a few of the references relied upon in the BE that I was unable to readily find on the internet.

1. Action area - NMFS will likely describe the action area differently than what is presented in the BE. As we have discussed previously, the BE contains discrepancies relative to the action area. In Section 2.2., the action area is defined in the reach of the Snake River between the Hells Canyon Dam and the Salmon River confluence. However, the effects analysis (e.g., Section 5.4.4.1 [page 93]) discusses effects below the Salmon River confluence.

2. Coho Salmon EFH - Coho salmon EFH includes the Lower Snake-Asotin 4th-level HUC. Coho have historically used the Snake River as a migration corridor to access the Grande Ronde River. I anticipate our action area will encompass this segment of the Snake River, thus, we will include mention/analysis of coho EFH.

3. Southern Resident killer whale (SRKW) - As we have discussed, NMFS will likely come to a different conclusion regarding the impacts to this species. In addition, it was surprising to see a "NLAA" determination for SRKW designated critical habitat in Table 7.1 of the BE. I noted that a discussion about impacts to SRKW critical habitat was not included in Section 5.4.5. As such, I suspect the "NLAA" determination in Table 7.1 is a typographical error (the footnote regarding designated critical habitat for SRKW is not clear). Will you please clarify whether EPA is making an NLAA or "No Effect" determination for SRWK critical habitat?

4. References: Will you please send me electronic copies of the following:

Jensen, J.O.T., W.E. McLean, W. Damon, and T. Sweeten. 2005. Puntledge River high temperature study: influence of high water temperatures on adult Chinook salmon (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha). Canadian Technical Report of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences.

Mann, R. and C. Peery. 2005. Effects of water temperature exposure on spawning success and developing gametes of migrating anadromous fish. A report to Walla Walla District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Thanks,

Johnna Sandow
Fish Biologist
NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region
Phone: 208.378.5737
johnna.sandow@noaa.gov
www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov